THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

No. 1220 *Thursday, Nov* 3, 1825. *Price* 1*d.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

Surely never were the Muses of Tragedy and Comedy in so great distress—never flowed the waters of Helicon at so low an ebb.—"Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Ascalon, that the two noblest theatres in the world are struggling to prolong a feeble existence; the one (old Drury) by impotent and inefficacious attempts, to sweep up entertainment out of the vilest rubbish of antiquity—the revived obscenities of Congreve and Vanburgh: the other by a desperate surrender of the honors of the drama altogether, and a presentation, in its place, of the thaumaturgy of the renowned *Mister Punch!*—Yes! after this, the bagpipes may succeed to the place of the full orchestra, and we shall expect to be invited to attend an Oratorio on the Jew's harp and the salt-box. What infatuation can have possessed the Managers?—Is it because they will not, or that they cannot afford to encourage genius, that they thus maintain their war against the good sense of the public, and betray the desperation of their cause, or the poverty of their resources. Let them at least try the experiment!—Let them bring forward new actors, and new pieces, to be rejected night after night—so, at least expectation will be kept alive—at least we shall have novelty; but in reviving the trash of two centuries ago, nonsense has not even the recommendation of novelty, and hope itself languishes under the reckless avowal of insignificance, notwithstanding the great labour of the performers in preparing parts, which they must know, will never be called for twice. Vanburgh's Comedy of *The Confederacy*, could not draw even a warm house; the pit was particularly thin. Through the tedious piece, Mrs. Davison, as a chamber-maid, infinitely inferior to Mrs. Humby, is constantly in the scene. Miss Kelly could enliven any thing, and we never like her so little as when her excellent powers are thrown away, in reconciling us to sit out through pieces, which, but for her, would not be endured; the pretty archness with which she delivered the best point of wit in the play, "The more one's alone, the more one thinks, and it is thinking improves a girl," was much and justly applauded.

Covent Garden Theatre.

There was a much better house, than at Drury Lane, but by no means a full one. The sulphureous horrors of *Der Freischutz*, were as amusing to the galleries as usual, the smoke of the incense ascended to the gods, but was for a long time very offensive, to the nostrils of

poor mortals in the pit and boxes. Miss Paton sang with all that animation and spirit, and that pleasing consciousness of her own great powers, which is the characteristic of her style, and affords a secondary and enhanced satisfaction to the pleasure of hearing her. The Chorus of the Huntsmen was encored, but not with so decisive a verdict, as to justify the extreme readiness which the performers manifested to repeat it.

All expressions of censure at the exhibition of Monsieur Mazurier, have ceased, and for a few evenings longer he will be endured We were glad for humanity's sake, to observe that his exertions were considerably less, and his bow at the finale not so sycophantly and meanly overdone as at his first performance. Miss Romer dances most exquisitely, and in her male attire appears the most graceful figure on the stage; but why, might not that character have been sustained by a gentleman? The Farce of *Too Late for Dinner* put the audience in good humour, the excellent acting of Jones, and the always pleasing Mrs. Davenport, supported the dialogue which though not above that of a farce, is vastly superior to the best entertainment, to be found in the revived trash, which our great grandfathers called comedies.

Haymarket Theatre.

The Castle of Andalusia, with *A Roland for an Oliver*, and *The Agreeable Surprise*, were acted here.—It was a ticket-night, and the audience became numerous in the course of the evening. In the Opera, Madame Vestris, Miss George, and Mrs. Waylett, sang delightfully; the former lady was honored with two encores in the course of the night. Mr. Wilkinson's *Spado*, and Mr. West's *Pedrillo*, were very amusing; and Mr. Ebsworth looked, and acted the bloody *Sanguino* to the life. The second piece was rendered highly entertaining by the talents of Mr. Williams, Mr. Vining, Madame Vestris, Mrs. C. Jones, and Mrs. T. Hill.—The Farce did not commence till near 11 o'clock. To-morrow evening, Mr. Massingham, box-book-keeper, presents his friends with three favorite pieces, in which Madame Vestris will perform;—Mr. M. is an old, and very respectable member of the establishment, and will, doubtless have a bumper.

Fashionable Lounges.—Open Daily.

DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—The present Views are the Ruins of Holyrood Chapel, a moonlight scene, and Chartres Cathedral.—Open from 10 till 4.—N. B. Between the hours of 11 and 3, is the best time to view the Diorama.

FOR a comfortable Lounge, a legitimate Cigar, an excellent Cup of Turkey Coffee, and *Theatrical Chit Chat*, look-in at The RURAL DIVAN, 5, Catherine Street, Strand.

DAYS OF ANCIENT CHIVALRY.—The Gothic Hall, Hay-Market, (next to the little Theatre) is now open, with the most splendid Collection of Ancient Armour in Europe, in which noble Knights are seen mounted upon their barbed Horses for a tournament; and the whole arranged so as to afford the spectator the best idea of the Days of Ancient Chivalry.

COSMORAMA—A change will take place on Monday next in this Exhibition, when the Views of Athens, the Ruins of Pastum, and five others, scarcely less interesting, will be removed.—209, Regent Street, Oxford Street.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, Shakspeare's Comedy of The

Merry Wives of Windsor

Sir John Falstaff, Mr DOWTON,
Page, Mr PENLEY, Ford, Mr WALLACK,
Sir Hugh Evans, Mr BROWNE,
Dr. Caius, Mr GATTIE, Fenton, Mr HORN,
Master Slender, Mr HARLEY,
Simple, Mr FITZWILLIAM, Rugby, Mr POVEY,
Justice Shallow, Mr HUGHES,
Bardolph, Mr G. SMITH, Nym, Mr WEBSTER,
Host, Mr THOMPSON,

Mrs Ford ..... Miss GRADDON,
Mrs Page, Miss CUBITT, Anne Page, Miss POVEY,
Dame Quickly, Mrs HARLOWE.

To conclude with the Farce of

My Uncle Gabriel.

Gabriel Omnium, Mr GATTIE, Scrip, Mr BEDFORD,
Lieutenant Sutton, Mr HORN, Jack Ready, Mr HARLEY,
Tom Tacit, Mr KNIGHT, *his 1st app. since his severe Indisposition.*

Eliza, Miss POVEY, Mrs T., Mrs ORGER.

To-morrow, Faustus.

☞ DARK EVENINGS.—The Public is requested to be careful in going to the Theatres, not to be imposed on by an Imitation of *The Theatrical Observer.*

The Summer Season of The Theatrical Observer, may be had complete, by applying at the Office, and at 25, Bow Street, or of Chappel and Son, Royal Exchange, Cornhill, where it is also published daily.—*The Weekly Dramatic Register*, is published every Saturday, as above, Price Three-half-pence.

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All Communications must be post paid.—Printing in General.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Beaumont & Fletcher's Comedy of

RULE A WIFE,

AND

HAVE A WIFE.

The Duke, Mr COOPER, Juan, Mr EGERTON,
Leon, Mr C. KEMBLE,
Alonzo, Mr BAKER, Sancho, Mr HORREBOW,
Lorenzo, Mr MEARS, Diego, Mr HEATH,
Cacafogo, Mr BARTLEY, Michael Perez, Mr JONES,
Altea, Mrs VINING, Clara, Miss HENRY,
Margarita, Mrs FAUCIT, Estifania, Miss CHESTER,
Victora...Mrs DALY, Isabel..Mrs WILSON,
Old Woman.....Mr BLANCHARD,
Daughter, Mr KEELEY.

After which, a new Comic Ballet, called The

Shipwreck of Policinello

Or, the Neapolitan Nuptials

Policinello.....Monsieur MAZURIER,
Galliardo, (the Bridegroom) Miss ROMER,
Sterno, (his Father) Mr COLLETT,
Galletta, (the Bride) Mrs BEDFORD, Arrietta, Mrs VEDY,
Ninetta, Miss KENDALL. *(Pupil of Mr. Austin.)*

To which will be added the Musical Entertainment of

Brother and Sister.

Don Christopher de Tormes, Mr FAWCETT,
Don Sylvio, Mr DURUSET,
Pacheco.....Mr MEADOWS,
Bartolo, Mr BLANCHARD,
Donna Isidora.....Miss PATON,
Rosanthe, Miss GOWARD, Agatha, Miss JONES,
Donna Camilla, Mrs VINING.

To-morrow, Julius Cæsar, with No Song no Supper.